convertible currency or any other internationally recognized form of business cooperation. A technical credit to Russia of not exceeding Rs. 850 crores has also been provided for in the protocol.

Opening of Sub Post Office and Branch Post Office in Almora Distt.

1866. SHRI SHANTI TYAGI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that residents of Basot have represented for opening a Sub-Post Office at Basot District Almora;

(b) whether it is a fact that they have also requested for opening branch post offices at Srikot and Gwelkhan; and

(c) if so, by when a sub post office at Basot and branch post offices at Srikot and Gwelkhan will be opened?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes Sir. The proposal for upgradation of Basot branch post office was examined but not found justified according to norms.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) In view of reply to part (a) and (b) above, the question does not arise at present.

Revision on pay scales of the Postal Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents

1867. SHRI SAMAR MUKHERJEE: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the recommendations of Fourth Central Pay Commission in the matter of revision of pay scales of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents in the Department of Posts have been implemented by Government;

(b) if not, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) by when the said recommendations are likely to be implemented?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P. V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The Pay scales recommended by the IVth Pay Commission, in respect of Inspectors and Assistant Superintendents have already been implemented by the Government. However, the Commission's recommendations with respect to:

(i) introduction of an element of direct recruitment in the cadre of Inspectors;

(ii) merger of the two cadres; and

(iii) review of the pay scales of both cadres after implementation of (i) and (ii) above is still under consideration.

(c) Soon after introduction of direct recruitment in the Cadre of Inspectors is taken up, the recommendations will be implemented.

Memorandum to Prime Minister by Postal Employees Unions

1868. SHRI RAMACHANDRAN PILLAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that a delegation of Postal Employees Unions led by a member of Parliament called on the Prime Minister on the 6th November, 1991 and submitted a memorandum;

(b) if so, what are the demands of these employees; and

(c) what steps have been taken by Government to fulfil these demands?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) and (c) A statement indicating the demands of the employees contained in the memorandum and steps taken/views of the Government thereto is attached.

Statement

Item No.	Demand	Steps taken/views of the Govt.
1.	The Postal services are being curtailed by reducing the number of postal deliveries and number of clearances of street letter boxes as also compelling the inmates of the multistoreyed buildings, to instal mail boxes at the ground floor. This should not be resorted to.	There has been no step to curtail the number of postal deliveries and the frequeancy of letter-box clearance. However the Mail Delivery Order, 1991 which requires all addressees other than ground floor residents, to provide letter boxes at the ground floor, has been issued with a view to ensure better manpower utilisation and thereby improve mail delivery.
2.	Gross discrimination in the case of Postmen in fixation of pay scale on completion of 26 years of service in the Biennial Cadre Review may be removed and the Postmen given the scale of Rs. 1200-1800 after completion of 26 years of service.	It has not been possible to accept this demand in order to maintain parity with other postal cadre with regard to qualifications, job requirement, etc.
3.	Extension of OTA on higher rates to postmen and adequate compensation for work on absentee beat.	The question of making postmen eligible for OTA on hourly rate based on emoluments has not been agreed to due the fact that duty hours and the nature of duty performed by them do not fulfil the basic conditions under which OTA scheme has been made applicable. However, it has been decided to revise the fixed monetary compensation for postmen in consultation with the Unions.
4.	Cash payment for purpose of uniform items instead of supply of the same in kind through DGS&D.	The practice of supply of liveries instead of payment of an allowance for this purpose is in conformity with the government guidelines in this regard.
5.	Suitable syllabus for Departmental Examinations.	The syllabi for departmental examinations are revised from time to time in consultation with the Unions, as per requirement
6.	Ban/restriction on creation of field posts may be removed and the staff sanctioned as usual on the basis of the time tested factors.	There is no ban on creation of field posts and additional posts are created from time to time as per the norms prescribed in this regard.
7.	The present pay scale of Rs. 825-1200 for postmen should be replaced by pay scale of Rs. 950-1500 because qualification for direct recruitment has been raised to Matriculation as also keeping in view physical, mental and responsibility requirements as also working conditions.	The Fourth Pay Commission have duly considered the aspects of fact, initiative, skill and accountability involved in the discharge of duties by the postmen as also the need for higher educational qualifications before recommending higher pay scale of Rs. 825-1200. There is, therefore, no scope for further revision of the pay scale of postmen.

Item No.	Demand	Steps taken/views of the Govt.
8.	The test Category Group 'D' packers and other categories of posts in post offices perform intensive nature of duties. It is not a routine job to be bracketed with broad bands of the existing routine Group 'D' categories outside the postal arena. Case should be taken up for further negotiated settlement.	The test category officials include persons such as peons, messengers, packer, porter, gateman, van peon etc. For appointment against these posts of Test Category, the candidates need not possess any specialised knowledge or technical skill. As such the Test Category Group 'D' officials of this Department cannot be categorised as Semi-skilled. The pay scale of Group 'D' officials was fixed as per the recommendations of the Fourth Pay Commission. There is no justification to consider any revision as suggested by the Unions.

Telephonic Expenditure of Ministers and M.Ps

1869. SHRI RATNA BAHADUR RAI: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) what is the amount of expenditure incurred by the Central Ministers and M.Ps. of both the Houses of Parliament by way of Bills during the last five years year-wise; and

(b) what are the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) and (b) The information has been called for from the concerned Ministries. The reply will be placed on the Table of the House as soon as it is received.

Setting up of Committee for Specification of Value Added Services

1870. SHRI SHIV PRATAP MISHRA: Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Committee set up by Government in October, 1991 to specify value-added services to be privatised has submitted its report;

(b) if so, what are the details thereof; and

(c) what action has been taken thereon?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P.V. RANGAYYA NAIDU): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Committee has recommended for installation, operation and maintenance of value added services on franchise basis in both public and private sector.

(c) Tenders have been floated for licensing cellular mobile radio telephone service in Delhi, Bombay, Calcutta and Madras.

उत्तर प्रदेश में टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरियों का प्रकाशन

1871. **श्री ईश दत्त यादव** : क्या संचार मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी प्रकाशित किए जाने का मापदंड क्या है,

(ख) विगत तीन वर्षों के दौरान उत्तर प्रदेश में विभिन्न टेलीफोन प्रबंधकों के क्षेत्रों में टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरियां प्रकाशित किये जाने का ब्यौरा क्या है,

(ग) टेलीफोन डायरेक्टरी को समय से प्रकाशित न किये जाने के क्या कारण हैं; और

(घ) इस संबंध में जिला टेलीफोन प्रबंधक-वार ब्यौरा क्या है?

संचार मंत्रालय में उप मंत्री (श्री पी० वी० रंगैया नायडू): (क) प्रत्येक गैण स्विचन क्षेत्र के लिए वार्षिक रूप से टेलीफोन निर्देशिकाए छापी जाती है।

(ख) उत्तर प्रदेश में 28 गौण स्विचन क्षेत्र हैं। वर्ष 1989-1990 और 1991 के दौरान इन क्षेत्रों के लिए छपी टेलीफोन निर्देशिकाओं का ब्यौरा संलग्न विवरण में प्रस्तुत किया गया है। **(नीचे देखिए)**

(ग) और (घ) मुद्रकों द्वारा ठेके संबंधी बाध्यताएं